THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The posting of a suitable person to the post is under consideration of the Government.

(d) In view of (b) Question does not arise

Proposal for a L.P.T. station at Paradip Port

*119. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for having a L.P.T. Station at Paradip Port considering its International importance and weak transmission from Bhubaneshwar T.V. Station because of long distance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the L.P.T. station at Paradip Port will start operating?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No such proposal appears to have been received by Doordarshan in the recent past.

(d) Does not arise.

(c) Improvement of TV service at Paradip Port and adjoining areas would depend on future availability of resources for the purpose.

Observance of excise day

*120. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 24th February, 1993 was observed as Excise Day all over the country;

(b) if so, what are the details of the celebrations with background for such observance;

(c) whether this celebration included disposal of public grievances within some time limit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) 24th February, 1993 was observed as Excise Day, by the Central Excise Collectorates all over the country. Government decided to observe the Day after considering a request made by the All India Federation of Central Excise Executive Officers to celebrate the Day, with a view to fostering a sense of pride and identity among the members of the service and to generate a feeling of camaraderie. The Day was to be celebrated by informative write ups/articles in newspapers/journals and magazines, holding seminars and lectures with participation by eminent persons in various fields, distribution of prizes and awards to field units/officers for outstanding work and organisation of cultural programmes and get-to-gethers.

(c) and (d) The celebrations did not include disposal of public grievances, as various fora for redressal of grievances of public/assessees already exist, like the Customs and Central Excise Advisory Council at the Centre and Regional Advisory Committees/Grievances Committees at the Collectorates' Headquarters providing effective opportunities for ventilation of general problems/specific grievances and redressal of the same.

Promotion of Tourism in unexplored Sports in Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir

802. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ladhakh and Jammu Regions in Jammu and Kashmir State are abound in unexplored spots of tourist potential;

(b) if so, whether Government have drawn any time bound plan for the development of these spots to promote